

today when they go to St. Petersburg, Fla., to do battle with Pat Moran's squad of patchwork Phillies. Moran is bossing almost an entirely new team, and it has had but half a week's practice. That gives the Cubs a slight edge, as they have had all of a week to slip into "mid-season form."

Regulars will make the trip, McLarry holding down the keystone and Fisher the short field. Williams has the job at center, Standridge, Schorr and Robbins are the pitching selections, with Lavender to render first aid. Jimmy Archer will go along as manager of the team, and possibly do a bit of catching.

Bresnahan's selection of Archer as his chief assistant is a good move and should promote excellent feeling in the club. When Roger first came here some of the fans immediately supposed there would be a feud between the present manager and Archer. And some of the thoughtless bugs played one against the other. When Roger pulled a poor play there were loud cries for Archer, and it worked with reverse English, also.

Despite this, the two stars rattled along well together, and the present move of Bresnahan's shows how ridiculous is such talk. He recognizes Archer's ability and is willing to admit it. And Archer also pays tribute to his fellow-backstop as a wise ball player. There will be no feuds this year on the Cub team.

While the first team is in St. Petersburg Bresnahan will be at Tampa working on the second-string men, the pitchers and young catchers being slated for a hard session under the managerial eye.

Rebel Russell, Sox southpaw, is not doing well on the spring trip. This is a critical time with the Texan, who has been told that he must show something to prevent a slide back to the minors. He went one inning yesterday and was found for four hits. The Sox were lammed, 12 to 2, Joe Benz also being clouted liberally.

Russell reported away over weight and was put through a reducing process that brought only partial results. Last spring seems to have failed to impress the big fellow. Then he came to the training camp too heavy to do good pitching and was boiled down. Despite rubber shirts and long hikes he couldn't melt off the required poundage and went through the entire season in a slipshod manner.

That should have been a lesson. It should have warned him that he



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couldn't acquire a lot of beef during the winter and then pitch big league baseball. He did not heed the danger signal and if he fails again he has no one to blame but himself.

Scroggins, a recruit, looms up as a good southpaw, and he is being given a lot of attention, now that Russell appears in for another ineffective season.

Nothing much was expected of Benz in this trial. Joe was sick all winter and needs time to regain his strength. He is working under instructions not to exert himself unduly.